Utah Pollinator Habitat Program

American Vetch
(*Vicia americana*)

Zone: 4-7

Color: Purple

Bloom Time: May to September

Plant Type: Perennial vine

Mature Height: 3 feet

Mature Spread: 3 feet, less if offered a climbing structure

Water Use: Low to moderate

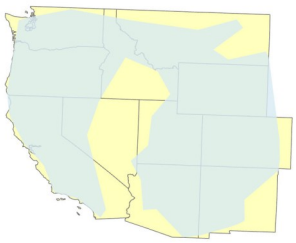
Soil Type: Thrives in a variety of well-drained soils, including sandy, loamy, and clay soils, prefers a more neutral pH.

Range and Native Habitat: *Vicia americana* has a broad native range spanning from Alaska to Ontario, and south to Virginia and Arizona. It thrives in diverse habitats including open woodlands, thickets, meadows, and along roadsides. It's commonly found in damp, gravelly slopes, but is adaptable enough to be in more arid locations like high desert perennial marsh.

Suggested Maintenance: Cut back in late spring. Provide consistently moist but well-draining soils - will tolerate dry soils, but can affect overall growth and bloom time. Can be summer pruned to manage size. Consider a climbing structure to keep vines in check.

Other: Larval food source for many species of butterfly larvae throughout the U.S., such as Funereal Duskywing, Western Tailed Blue, and Clouded Sulphur.

Distribution Map



Wildlife Supported

Landscaping Information

Sun
Full sun to part shade

Water Needs
Low to moderate

Summer Irrigation
3x-4x / month once established

Soil Drainage
Moderate

Propagation
By seed, 1-2 mos stratification, cuttings